

Hatchet Company

Happy New Year to all of the soldiers and families of Hatchet Company. I hope everyone is enjoying the snow that finally got here. Thanks to all of the spouses and families of Hatchet Company for their efforts on the events of last year. You are the ones that make the difference and keep things running smoothly for all of us. We appreciate all the effort for the Battalion Christmas party. The holidays also gave many of our soldiers the chance to take some leave and visit with families outside of Alaska. I am sure everyone enjoyed their time off. We have been working hard over the past couple of months and the company has been spread out. Medics, Engineers and Cooks deployed with Apache and Commanche companies to the National Training Center in Ft. Irwin in November. Great job from all of these guys as they were gone over the Thanksgiving holiday. Both the Scout and Mortar platoons as well as some from Support platoon and the DFAC deployed to Ft. Greeley in November for a Brigade field training exercise called Arctic Heat and trained as the "opposing force". They really showed the units up north what being a paratrooper means as they repeatedly defeated them on the battlefield with their superior infantry skills.

The Scout platoon has gained international recognition!
SSG Shaffer/SGT Hensley took Top Team, Top Spotter, and Top Shooter at the 2nd Annual International Army Sniper Competition that took place at Ft. Benning, Ga. On 16-21 December.
Once again congratulations to you all.

I would like to congratulate several paratroopers in Hatchet Company in their accomplishments of graduating the following schools.
ANCOC: SFC Hill from the Motor Pool
BNCOC: SSG Moyers from the Medical Platoon
PLDC: CPL Quintero (Commandant List) & SPC Kresser who are both from the Mortar Platoon.
Airborne School: SPC George from the Motor Pool graduated November.

Congratulations to our new married couples:
SSG Dooling was married on 26 Dec. to Teresa
Ben Fernandes married Rebecca Bowen from Anchorage Alaska, 31 Dec 02,
PFC Tilley and his wife Golden Long of Texas who is currently attending Tarleton State University and working on becoming an officer.

Welcome to the Hatchet Family.

New Arrivals to the families:
SSG Hissong & his wife, Kristine, had a baby boy named Logan James.
LT Temple and his wife Martha had a baby boy named Charles.
PFC Cabrera and his wife had a baby boy named Isaac.
Congratulations to you all.

Hatchet Company has gained and lost many great leaders and soldiers over the past few months and over the holidays. We would all like to wish a fond farewell to the following soldiers who have left the company or are leaving soon:

SFC Todd Nibarger, SPC Kelvin Pace, SGT Jason Morningstar, SGT Dennis Galicia, SPC Micah Ross, SPC Paul Smith, SSG Buzz Pfeiffer, SPC Christopher Mercado, SGT Joel Baker, 1LT Ryan Moody, CPT Aaron Gorrie, SGT Corey Baughman, SSG Emil Walsh, SPC Adam Wilcox, SGT Gary Wiedemann, SPC Jason Hooper, SSG Allen Sistrunk, SPC Andrew Posekany, SSG Leon Tommer, MSG Harrigan, SSG Emil Walsh, SGT Andrew Damm, PFC Jonathan Lyle, SGT Dejean, SGT Jose Guzman.

We would also like to welcome the following soldiers to Alaska and to Hatchet Company:

PFC Christopher Cayard, 1LT Benjamin Temple, 1LT Matthew Graham, SPC Cliff Bishop, 1LT Eric Swiger, SPC Justin Ellis, PV2 Paul Zucco, SPC Joshua Babcock, PFC Newman Crews, SGT Randy Miller, CPT Jonathan Chung, SPC Reginald Davis, SPC Joshua McCoy, SPC Patrick Baker, 1LT Liam Connor, PFC Anthony Roberts, SSG Bryce Westlake, PFC Derek Smith, 2LT Quincy Decourte, SFC Easter, PV2 Mitchell, PV2 Hegland, SPC Baker, SFC Jeffery Reed. I also want to give a warm welcome to all of our new ENGINEERS who are now officially part of Hatchet Company.

Congratulations to the following soldiers who extended their military careers and did a great service to our company, the battalion, and the Army by reenlisting. SSG Carlson from the Commo platoon. SGT Stephens from the DFAC reenlisted for Ft.

Leavenworth, Kansas

SPC Long and SPC Fajardin both from the AT platoon reenlisted to stay in Alaska for a while longer and also have been selected to become NCO's and attend PLDC. SPC Townsend from the S2 shop.

SPC Kresser and SPC Wiggins, both from the Mortar platoon. SPC Fleuratin of HQ platoon.

SSG Williams from the S1 shop reenlisted also and will be leaving soon for duty in Iowa. Great decision from all of you!

The mighty Hatchets are getting anxious to go somewhere and we will do just that as we head to the National Training Center in February. There we will conduct some of the best training we can possibly get on our million dollar rotation. It will be a very valuable training experience for us all as we train with the 4th Infantry Division from Ft. Hood, Texas who is bringing two armor battalions full of tanks to the fight. A great chance for our younger soldiers to see some different equipment. We will be deployed for almost a month, so I encourage all to become involved with the Family Readiness Group and be aware of opportunities and events to participate in. Save some of the snow for us to play in when we get back! Once again thanks to all the spouses and families who support us every day.

CPT Michael Hall